

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Gov. Ritter and lawmakers made significant progress on increasing student learning, improving educator effectiveness and addressing the fiscal challenges facing Colorado's public colleges and universities.

- **Senate Bill 10-191, Educator Effectiveness (Johnston & Spence/Scanlan & Murray).** Puts into state law Gov. Ritter's executive order that created the Governor's Council on Educator Effectiveness. The bill establishes timelines for the Council to recommend definitions of "educator effectiveness," for local education leaders to pilot the recommendations, and for the Legislature and State Board of Education to take appropriate action. Ensures that student academic growth is a component of teachers' and principals' evaluations, addresses teacher placement, and links the awarding and retention of teacher tenure to the demonstration of student growth. These new practices will help secure an effective teacher and principal in every classroom in every school.
- **SB10-003, Higher Education Flexibility (Morse & Penry/Middleton & May).** Protects affordability and accessibility for students while providing colleges and universities with short-term budgetary aid in an extremely challenging fiscal environment.
- **SB10-202, Job Retraining Savings Accounts (Whitehead/A. Kerr).** Works with existing state programs to allow adult learners to open job retraining savings accounts for educational expenses. The accounts will encourage the creation of a partnership between workers and employers to increase education productivity, improve recruitment and retention and meet the changing needs of our economy.
- **House Bill 10-1208, Statewide Transfer Agreements (Todd & Murray/B. Shaffer & K. King).** Makes it easier for students to transition from two- to four-year higher-education programs.
- **SB 10-088, Two-Year College Degree Designation (Johnston/Massey).** Eases the transition from two- to four-year institutions and increases degree completion.
- **SB10-108, Higher Education Core Courses (K. King/Middleton).** Allows students to test out of core course requirements, with full credit and without paying tuition.
- **SB10-008, Average Daily Membership Study (Johnston/Scanlan).** Authorizes a study to examine alternative ways of determining pupil enrollment in schools. The state currently determines pupil enrollment based on the number of students in attendance on October 1st of each year and bases funding on this.
- **SB 10-195, Early Childhood Leadership Commission (Newell/Solano).** Codifies Gov. Ritter's executive order creating a public-private commission that will recommend improvements to early childhood services in Colorado.